

## WELCOME TO THE 2005 WISCONSIN BICYCLE MAP

For a long time Wisconsin has been considered a premier state for outdoor recreational activities, including bicycling. It is with fun and even a bit of utility in mind, we present the 2005 edition of the Wisconsin Bicycle Map. This map will help cyclists get from point A to point B anywhere in the state. The map includes information on roadway conditions for bicycle travel, bicycle trails, Rustic Roads, and mountain bike facilities. The map is brought to you by the Bicycle Federation of Wisconsin in concert with Wisconsin Department of Transportation. WisDOT provided information on traffic and roadway conditions and a user-friendly classification scheme.

### BIKE CONDITIONS MAPPED

The Wisconsin Bicycle Map highlights the most favorable bicycling conditions while presenting the full continuum of roadways - from narrow town roads to US Highways. This approach enables cyclists of all abilities to select their own routes to meet their individual transportation and recreational needs. The methodology used with this map is applicable to rural roadways, but not urban areas. Increased traffic volumes, lower speeds, and changing road design, affect bicycle travel in urban areas in ways that cannot be accurately depicted on this map. Thus, the bicycle conditions ratings for roadways stop at urban fringes, however the streets are still depicted. Local bicycle maps are available for many communities and are listed on the WisDOT website. In addition, the Wisconsin Bicycle Map suggests some routes into and through the major metropolitan areas of Milwaukee, Madison, Green Bay and La Crosse.

### DISCLAIMER


The user of this map bears full responsibility for his or her safety. The bicyclist assumes the risks encountered and is advised to use good judgment and obey traffic laws on all roads, regardless of their classification on this map. The State, counties, cities, villages and their officers and employees and those of the Bicycle Federation of Wisconsin or their agents and those of the University of Madison-Cartography Lab shall not be answerable or held accountable in any manner for loss, damage or injury that may be suffered by bicyclists who use this map.

The information on this map should be used by state and local transportation planners to improve conditions for cyclists, especially in areas that are currently less suitable for bicycle travel and experiencing growth or increased auto congestion. Transportation planners should also consult the Wisconsin Department of Transportation State Bicycle Plan as well as bicycle groups and local bicycle plans before any decisions are made that could affect the use of a route for bicycling.


### LEGEND & HOW TO USE THIS MAP

The map is provided to assist bicyclists over age 16 who have had drivers training


and are capable of riding longer distances between communities. As you use the following legend, know your level of skill and comfort in sharing roadways with motor vehicles. Then select routes with riding conditions that match your skill level, based upon the following legend:

**Town Roads**  These could not be individually evaluated or classified as part of this map in the same way county and state highways were. Most are likely to have narrow pavements with no paved shoulders and very low volumes of traffic. Traffic volumes are likely to be heavier when traveling these roads into cities. Town roads will be quite steep with poor sight lines in the Southwestern and Mississippi Valley areas of the state. *New for this map is the depiction of gravel and paved town roads and the identification of town roads with heavier vehicle volumes.*


#### Best Conditions for Bicycling

These county and state highways will have light volumes of traffic and may have many other favorable factors such as good sight distance and minimal truck traffic. This classification may include a small number of highways approaching a moderate level of traffic but with paved shoulders. 


#### Moderate Conditions for Bicycling

These roadways have moderate traffic volumes for the amount of pavement width present. This classification may also include county highways and state highways with paved shoulders, but slightly more traffic. Due to moderate traffic volumes, less experienced cyclists should use care on these segments. 


#### Higher Volume, Wider Paved Shoulders

These roadways have moderately-high car and truck volumes, but have wider paved shoulders. This classification also includes a select number of 4-lane highways that have very wide paved shoulders and moderate levels of traffic, but are posted for 65 mph motor vehicle traffic. Due to traffic volumes, less experienced cyclists should use care on these segments. 


#### High Volume, Undesirable Conditions

These roadways have moderately-high traffic volumes with no paved shoulders or high traffic volumes with narrow paved shoulders, and many have moderate to high truck traffic. This classification could also include some moderate volume roadways, but with an assortment of negative factors for bicycling. Bicyclists should try to plan around these roads and/or use considerable caution when using them. Bicyclists should have significant amounts of expertise with these types of riding conditions if choosing these highways. 

### Bicyclists Prohibited

These roadways are 4-lane Interstates and freeways posted as "pedestrians and other non-motorized traffic, motor bicycles, power-driven cyclists prohibited." Most expressways (but not Interstates and freeways) will permit bicycling, but pay close attention to how they are rated on the map. Also, many expressways become freeways where bicycling is not permitted. 

### Bicycle Touring Trails

These are bicycling trails often of a finely screened limestone for state trails. These trails are excellent for use by hybrid and mountain bikes and most are also suitable for road bikes. Most of the trails are paved in urban areas. Many of these trails are particularly good for children and inexperienced cyclists lacking the ability to cope with motor vehicle traffic. 

### Urban Escape Routes

These routes are likely to be the best bicyclist connections into large cities and are often well used by area cyclists. However, most have moderate traffic volumes without bike lanes or paved shoulders.

### Major Urban Streets

Bicycling conditions are not presented for these streets. They are likely to have high volumes of traffic in cities.

### Rustic Roads

Wisconsin's designated system of scenic, lightly-traveled country roads. Many of these roads are identified with the word "Rustic" near the name of the road. For a Rustic Roads Directory see next section.

### CONTACTS FOR OTHER STATE & NATIONAL BICYCLE ROUTE INFORMATION

Detailed state trails information is available from the Department of Natural Resources, Bureau of Parks and Recreation, at P.O. Box 7921, Madison, WI. 53707-7921; 608-266-2181; or at <http://www.dnr.state.wi.us/org/land/parks/maps/>.

For a Rustic Roads Directory you can contact: Wisconsin Department of Transportation, P.O. Box 7913, Madison, WI 53707 or <http://www.dot.state.wi.us/travel/scenic/maps.htm>.

Detailed national guide maps for two Adventure Cycling routes that run through Wisconsin are available from Adventure Cycling, 150 E. Pine Street; P.O. Box 8308, Missoula, MT 59807-8308; (406)751-1776 or <http://www.adventurecycling.org>. Information on the Mississippi River Trail, including a long segment of trail in

Wisconsin (Great River Road Bicycle Route), is available at <http://www.mississippirivertrail.org/Wisconsin/wisconsin.html>.

To promote recreational trips within Wisconsin, the Department of Tourism publishes the Wisconsin Biking Guide, a detailed ride guide including attractions and amenities along 14 selected on-road bike tours, 14 mountain bike trails, and 15 traffic-free bike touring trails. Free from the Wisconsin Department of Tourism, 123 Washington Avenue, P.O. Box 7976, Madison, WI 53707. Toll-free (800)432-TRIP, or <http://www.travelwisconsin.com/search/kits.html>.

### Organized Bike Tours

Enjoying Wisconsin's scenic backroads by taking advantage of the assistance of a planned bicycle tour may be just the thing for you. Organized tours range from informal show-and-go events put on by local bike clubs to partial or full-service tours that cross the state and arrange lodging/camping, baggage transport, meals and bike rental. For additional information on bicycle tours see the Bicycle Federation of Wisconsin's website at [http://www.bfw.org/new\\_bfw/links/index.php](http://www.bfw.org/new_bfw/links/index.php) and go to "Recreation links".

### CONTACTS FOR LOCAL BICYCLE ROUTE INFORMATION

The following local communities and counties offer detailed and complete maps and information on recommended routes through their respective areas. An assortment of map information (including county bicycle maps) can be obtained by going to <http://www.dot.wisconsin.gov/travel/bike-foot/bikemaps.htm>. Cities with more detailed bike maps: Appleton, Duluth-Superior, Madison, Milwaukee, La Crosse. Counties with bike maps: Dane, Iron, Jefferson, Marathon, Lafayette, Richland, Marinette, Milwaukee, St. Croix, Racine, Kenosha, Waupaca.

### SUPPLEMENTAL SERVICES

#### Lodging

Wisconsin's hospitality industry ranges from small inns and bed & breakfasts to resorts and hotels. Reservations are recommended, particularly on weekends. Call the Wisconsin Department of Tourism, (800)432-TRIP or <http://www.travelwisconsin.com/d2k/search/kits.html> to request either the Wisconsin Lodging Directory or the Wisconsin Bed & Breakfast Association Directory.

#### Campgrounds

Campgrounds are located throughout Wisconsin offering a variety of services and facilities. For information and locations contact the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources, Bureau of Parks and Recreation, Box 7921, Madison, WI 53707, (608)266-2181 or contact the Wisconsin Department of Tourism at (800)432-TRIP or <http://www.travelwisconsin.com/d2k/search/kits.html> for a Campground Directory.

**Youth Hostels**  
In Wisconsin, youth hostels provide inexpensive accommodations for self-propelled travelers. For information contact the Hostelling International-American Youth Hostels at <http://www.hiusa.org>. Currently hostels are located in Newburg and Madison, Wisconsin.

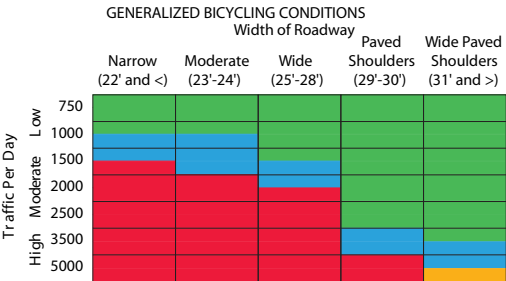
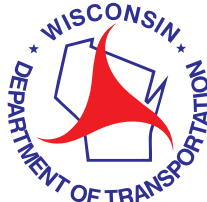
**National Forests**  
For information on National Forests, contact the Chequamegon National Forest Office, 1170 Fourth Avenue S., Park Falls, WI 54552, (715)762-2461; or the Nicolet National Forest Office, 68 S. Stevens St., Rhinelander, WI 54501, (715)362-1300.

**AMTRAK Service**  
Passenger rail service is available through part of the state. However, only the stations indicated on the map (Milwaukee, Columbus, La Crosse and Winona, MN) provide the baggage service necessary to transport a bicycle. Bicycles must be boxed; you may provide the carton or purchase one from Amtrak. The boxed bicycle will be included as one of the three pieces of luggage and a nominal fee is charged.

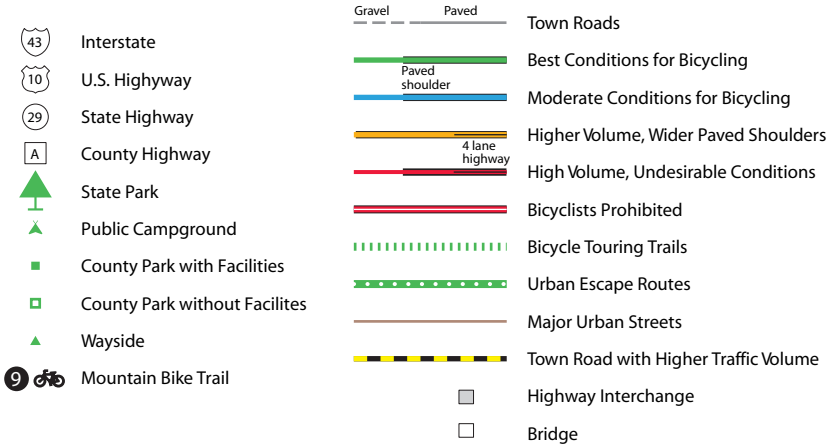
**Ferries**  
There are six ferry services in Wisconsin. All ferries charge a fee except the publicly owned Colsac II at Merrimac (Highway 113) ((608)246-3871) on the Wisconsin River. Contact ferries directly for schedules and rates, or visit the WisDOT web site at <http://www.dot.wisconsin.gov/travel/water/ferries.htm>. Washington Island Ferry (920)847-2546, Madeline Island Ferry (715)747-2051, Mississippi River Ferry - (Cassville, WI to Turkey Creek, IA) (608)725-5180, Lake Michigan Ferry - (Manitowoc WI to Ludington, MI) (888)337-7948, Lake Express (Milwaukee to Muskegon) (866)914-1010 .  
Important Note: By including a ferry trip across Lake Michigan, cyclists are able to ride cross-country and into Canada without having to route around the lake.

**ABOUT THE BICYCLE FEDERATION OF WISCONSIN**  
The Bicycle Federation of Wisconsin (BFW) is a statewide bicycle education and advocacy organization. Its mission, to Make Wisconsin a Better Place to Bicycle, embraces the basic vision behind the organization; that bicycling is a viable, healthy and environmentally sustainable means of transportation, recreation and sport. BFW provides bicyclists of all ages with information on recreational rides, safety tips and commuting skills while educating decision makers about the importance of bicycling to our communities.

Members are our strength! The Bicycle Federation of Wisconsin is member-driven. Please join us. Please feel free to drop by, call, visit our website, or email: Bicycle Federation of Wisconsin, [www.bfw.org](http://www.bfw.org). Statewide Headquarters: 106 E. Doty #400, PO Box 1224, Madison, WI 53701-1224, 608-251-4456, [info@bfw.org](mailto:info@bfw.org), [www.bfw.org](http://www.bfw.org); Southeastern Wisconsin Satellite Office: 1845 N Farewell Ave. #100, Milwaukee, WI 53202, 414-271-9685, [david@bfw.org](mailto:david@bfw.org), [www.bfw.org](http://www.bfw.org)



The table illustrates, in a generalized fashion, how state and county highways were classified by their conditions for bicycling. Traffic and width of roadways are the two primary variables affecting bicycling conditions. Secondary variables, such as sight line conditions and truck traffic, also affect bicycling conditions. These secondary variables were factored into the model that classified the bicycling conditions.



Note: paved shoulder information is provided for state highways only.